

The following additional localities for *Norellia spinigera* may be noted here: Nethy Bridge (Inverness), July 28th, 1904; taken by Col. Verbury. New Forest (Hants), June, 1903; taken by Dr. Sharp. Barton Mills (Suffolk), May 31st, 1911, and the Monnow Valley (Herefordshire), August 8th, 1910; taken by myself.—J. E. C.

*What is the true host of Nirmus interruptus, Piaget?*—In describing this species, found originally on a museum specimen of *Phalacrocorax carbo*, Piaget (Les Pédiculines, p. 173) draws attention to its close affinities with *N. furvus*, N., whose usual hosts are waders of the genera *Totanus*, *Vanellus*, *Ægialitis*, &c. Five years later, in the "Supplement" to the "Essai" (1885), p. 21, Piaget again records *interruptus*, this time from *Totanus glottis*. This record is appended to the description of a new species, *Nirmus incertus*, obtained from the same bird. The author points out that *incertus*, though found on a Wader, is evidently away from its true host, which must, from the structure of the parasite, be a bird of prey. He goes on to remark that *Nirmus interruptus* on *Totanus glottis* is equally inexplicable. Apparently, then, Piaget considered both *N. incertus* and *N. interruptus* to be stragglers on the Greenshank, and takes the Cormorant to be the real host of the second parasite. The writer has in his collection one or two examples of what he takes to be *N. interruptus*. The host on which they occurred was a *Totanus canescens* (= *glottis*), shot on the east coast of Scotland. *N. interruptus* seems to be very closely related to *furvus*, and the Greenshank is probably a true host. Its nearest congener is apparently the form got on *Totanus calidris*. One would like to know whether this parasite is as closely attached to *Phalacrocorax carbo* and *P. sulcirostris*. The writer will be glad to receive *Nirmus* for examination from *Tringa*, *Totanus*, *Vanellus*, &c.—JAMES WATERSTON, The Manse, Ollaberry, Shetland.—December 5th, 1912.

*Variation in the genal comb of Typhloceras poppei, Wagn.*—When introducing this peculiar insect to the notice of British Entomologists (Ent. Rec. and Journ. of Var., Vol. XV, No. 8, p. 196, pl. ix, 1903), Mr. Rothschild remarked that instead of the normal four, one female showed five spines on one side of the head. Up to the time of writing Mr. Rothschild had received 10 examples of the insect. As the number of genal spines is an important systematic character, and as *poppei* seems to be unusually variable in this respect, the following note of the teeth in the genal combs of a small series of this flea (from Shetland), may be worthy of record. Of 38 examined 31 were normal, while 4 ♀♀ and 3 ♂♂ were aberrant. Two ♀♀ showed right and left respectively 3 and 4 spines. Two had arrangement 4 : 3. In the ♂♂ one found 5 : 4 ; 3 : 5 ; 4 : 3. Where 5 spines occur in these examples, the extra one is placed behind the normal 4th ; where a spine is wanting it is the normal 1st, counting from the palpus backwards in each instance.—JAMES WATERSTON.

*The new Keepership of Entomology at the British Museum.*—Entomologists will be pleased to hear that the Principal Trustees of the British Museum have at last appointed a Keeper for the Department of Entomology, the vast collections